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Terrorism Review

19 October 1989

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Terrorism Review

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This review is published biweekly by the Directorate of Intelligence. Other elements of the CIA as well as other agencies of the US Intelligence Community are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Comments and queries are welcome
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Highlights

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Significant Developments

Western Europe

Belgium

Jewish Leader Killed

The leader of Belgium's Jewish community, Joseph Wybran, was shot and killed on 4 October in Brussels. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A group claimed responsibility for the assassination in the name of Soldiers of the Right and said that Wybran was killed because he had worked as an informant for Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service, and that the killing was in retaliation for the recent assassination of Naaman Rifaat, an official of the Abu Nidal organization (ANO) who was killed in Lebanon in August. [REDACTED]

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The group that kidnapped Dr. Cools in May 1988 used the name Soldiers of the Right, and information acquired after his kidnapping—as well as public statements by the Belgian Foreign Ministry—indicate that the ANO was responsible for the abduction. In June, a spokesman for the ANO said his group released Cools after an appeal from Libyan leader Qadhafi. The Soldiers of the Right has claimed responsibility for several attacks since Cools's abduction; all the targets were consistent with the ANO's preferences. The name Naaman Rifaat was also used in a claim by the ANO of an infiltration into Israel's security zone on the same day as the attack on Wybran. [REDACTED]

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France

15 May Organization Leader To Be Tried

France plans to try Husayn al-Umari (Abu Ibrahim), leader of the 15 May terrorist organization, in absentia. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The courts also have indicted Habib Maamar, a member of Abu Ibrahim's group who is in prison, as well as two French citizens who were involved in the terrorist network. Maamar is charged with criminal association, murder, attempted murder, destruction of property, and illegal possession of weapons. Abu Ibrahim is accused of complicity in all the charges against Maamar. [REDACTED]

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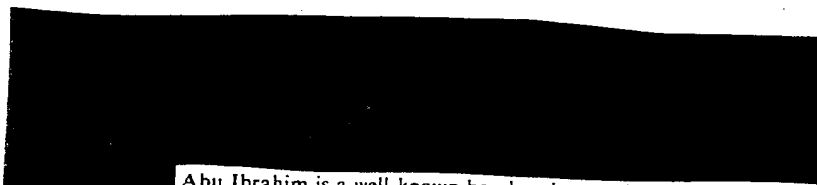
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Abu Ibrahim is a well-known bombmaker, and his group was notorious for employing suitcase bombs and other explosive devices. [REDACTED]

Greece

17 November Kills Conservative Politician

17 November continues to direct its violence at persons involved in the Koskotas scandal. On 26 September the group assassinated a prominent member of the conservative New Democracy (ND) party as he entered an office building in Athens. The victim, Pavlo Bakoyiannis, was a member of Parliament, ND's official spokesman, and the son-in-law of the party's leader, Constantine Mitsotakis. The group's communique claimed that Bakoyiannis collaborated with Georgios Koskotas to steal several hundred million dollars from the Bank of Crete. Technical evidence indicates that the group used the two .45 caliber automatic pistols it had used in previous attacks, and the communique left at the scene was prepared on the same typewriter as all the group's other proclamations. Several witnesses saw the attackers as they walked away from the building, including a policeman and a bystander who attempted to stop one of the terrorists. The policeman was suspended for not pursuing the terrorists. [REDACTED]

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The government is bracing for more attacks by 17 November before the next elections, scheduled for 5 November. According to press reports, security has been increased for key party and government officials and for persons named in the terrorists' communique. In addition, the government has posted a reward of over \$1 million for information on the killer, allocated additional funds for police equipment, and announced plans to reorganize the Ministry of Public Order's counterterrorist effort. [REDACTED]

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Middle East

Iran-France-Yugoslavia

Rushdie Campaign Continues

French and Yugoslavian publishing houses affiliated with Salman Rushdie's *Satanic Verses* have become the latest victims of Iran's anti-Rushdie campaign. The offices of Fayard, one of three French companies involved in the novel's joint publication, were damaged by an explosion on 2 October. According to press reports, the company—whose police protection ended in June—had not received any recent threats. On 26 September, a bomb exploded outside the Prosveta publishing house in Zagreb. This explosion—claimed by a previously unknown Croat Muslim group—may have been prompted by an announcement that *Satanic Verses* would be published in Serbo-Croatian and Macedonian. In response to the announcement, a leader of the Yugoslav Islamic community had said that the publication "may have unforeseen consequences." [REDACTED]

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Lebanon

Red Cross Workers Kidnapped

Although no group has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of two Swiss International Red Cross workers near the Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian refugee camp in Sidon, Lebanon, on 6 October, circumstantial evidence suggests that the ANO or a radical Shia group may have been involved. The ANO denies responsibility; however, it kidnapped relief worker Peter Winkler last year from the same area and freed him a month later allegedly in exchange for a promise of ransom payments that Geneva reneged on. A second possibility—though less likely since Sidon is not a Shia stronghold—is that Hizballah kidnapped the workers to press Geneva for the release of the group's jailed operative Muhammad Hariri, who participated in the 1987 hijacking of an Air Afrique flight. [REDACTED]

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Islam and the Palestinian Uprising

The Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has spurred the growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the Israeli-occupied territories and prompted tactical cooperation between Palestinian religious and nationalist groups. The sizable operational role of Palestinian fundamentalists in the uprising, however, has failed to win them significant political power. The fundamentalists' prospects for gaining a greater political role will improve if the PLO's policy of moderation toward Tel Aviv fails and the level of violence increases. Nonetheless, the PLO is likely to retain the allegiance of most Palestinians in the territories, believing a secular leadership will be more effective than a religious one in ending the Israeli occupation.

Roots of Political Islam in the Territories

Although the Gaza Strip is more susceptible to fundamentalist influence than the West Bank, Palestinians in both areas are predominantly secular in their culture and politics. The area's historical ties to Europe, the dominance of Palestinian nationalism embodied by the secular PLO, and the fairly large number of Palestinian Christians (5 to 10 percent of the population) in the territories have limited the political influence of Islamic fundamentalism. The West Bank has been more resistant than the Gaza Strip to the spread of fundamentalism because of its higher living standards, education levels, and economic opportunities. Moreover, the Gaza Strip, unlike the West Bank, has also to some extent come under the influence of Muslim fundamentalists in Egypt.

The first Islamic political activists in the occupied territories were able to draw members from an array of Islamic religious, cultural, and charitable institutions already established there.

These Islamic fundamentalists engaged in overt educational activities aimed at instilling Muslim values as well as clandestine political activity, including the distribution of leaflets and encouragement of polemical sermons from local mosques.

The success of the Iranian revolution also spurred the growth of political Islam in the territories.

Fundamentalist Groups in the Territories

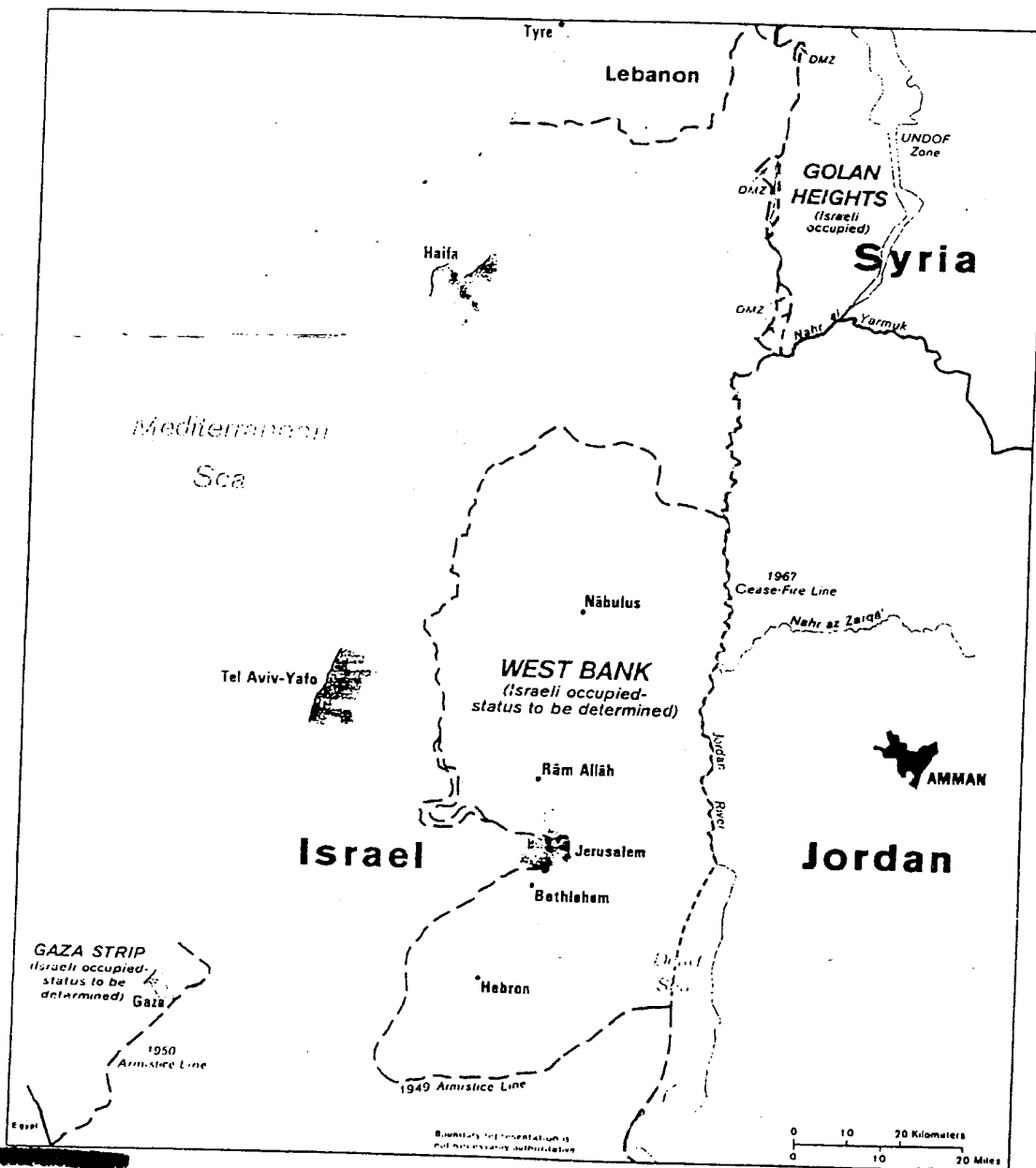
HAMAS. The Islamic Resistance Movement is the largest, wealthiest, and best organized of Palestinian fundamentalist groups in the territories. Known by its Arabic acronym HAMAS, which corresponds to the Arabic word meaning zeal, the group is virtually identical to the chapters of the Muslim Brotherhood that have operated in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the 1970s.

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The organization of HAMAS is elaborate and well established, especially in the Gaza Strip.

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The organizational strength of HAMAS comes in part from its solid financial base.

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During the course of the uprising, HAMAS has proclaimed the goal of establishing an Islamic state throughout historic Palestine. According to its covenant, which was distributed in the territories in August 1988, the group's slogan is "loyalty to God as its doctrine, to the Prophet as its model, to the Koran for its constitution; Jihad (holy war) is its path, and death for the sake of Allah is the loftiest of its wishes." The covenant asserts Jihad is the only acceptable policy toward Israel and rejects an international conference as a ruse "setting the infidels in the land of the Muslims as arbiters." The hardline doctrine is equally scathing toward Israel and any Arab regime that acquiesces in Israeli control over any part of historic Palestine.

The Palestinian Islamic Jihad. Since its founding in Gaza in 1979, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad has served as the principal proponent of militant Islamic

Israel and HAMAS

We believe Israel initially tolerated the growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the territories as an alternative to the PLO.

[REDACTED]

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The Israelis apparently concluded that they were allowing the creation of an uncontrollable monster. In May 1989, Israeli authorities arrested scores of HAMAS cadre in Gaza and the Hebron area, including the group's spiritual leader, Shaykh Ahmad Yasin.

[REDACTED]

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We are uncertain whether the Israeli crackdown has severely hurt HAMAS.

[REDACTED]

fundamentalism in the territories. Unlike HAMAS, which is able to command popular support through its extensive institutional network in the territories, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad operates only through a clandestine structure of cells in the Gaza Strip and to a lesser degree in the West Bank, according to academic experts.

[REDACTED]

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The goals of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad are similar to those of HAMAS but emphasize even more the importance of armed struggle against Israel.

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[REDACTED]

Palestinians, to help protect the leadership of the uprising from Israeli security measures, and to assure the dominance of the PLO's secular leadership in the uprising. (C NF)

Secular and Fundamentalist Roles in the Uprising

The organization of the overall Palestinian uprising is based on an extensive clandestine committee structure drawing from a broad range of Palestinians throughout the territories loyal to the PLO and its secular nationalist ideology.

Palestinian fundamentalists have succeeded in winning leadership roles in the uprising alongside secular elements and in forming youth groups to stone Israeli security forces.

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[REDACTED]

The Palestinian Shabab—youths who are the foot soldiers of the uprising—are organized in still smaller units that provide the muscle of the uprising; they are also secular in their politics.

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[REDACTED]

The Palestinian Islamic Jihad appears to play a much smaller role in the uprising than HAMAS does. Leaflets signed by the Palestinian Islamic Jihad have occasionally appeared in the territories, and we believe recruitment of new members continues in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Nonetheless, the group has not joined with HAMAS and secular youth groups in coordinated protests and does not maintain a liaison relationship with the PLO-oriented leaders of the uprising. We believe the highly secret cell structure of the group has made it reluctant to risk exposure to Israeli security forces by participating in the widespread popular protests. (S NF)

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[REDACTED]

The Shabab serve as the security force for the UNLU and its subordinate committees, enforcing strikes and boycotts and punishing and killing informants.

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[REDACTED]

The uprising's dominant group—PLO Chairman Arafat's Fatah faction—and HAMAS—despite deep ideological differences—have apparently decided to cooperate to sustain the uprising's unity and level of protests.

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[REDACTED]

The Shabab, in our view, have given the PLO and the UNLU the means to impose its directives on

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During the next year, deteriorating economic conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Palestinian frustration with the lack of progress toward a Palestinian state will probably weaken the preeminent position of Arafat's supporters in the uprising's clandestine leadership. Barring substantial diplomatic progress, Islamic fundamentalists and more hardline Palestinian activists within and outside the PLO will almost certainly gain greater control over participants in the unrest and be more reluctant to engage Israel in even limited political talks. Under these circumstances, Islamic activists will probably attempt to intensify lethal attacks against Israeli soldiers and settlers.

Nonetheless, these activists will face substantial obstacles in transforming their participation in the uprising into a broad popular base and political power in the territories. Arafat's international standing and the extensive infrastructure of Fatah-oriented unions, societies, and student associations will almost certainly prevent widespread defections of secular-minded Palestinians in the territories to HAMAS or other Islamic groups. Even if control of day-to-day operations of the uprising shifts to more hardline groups, most Palestinians are unlikely to abandon Fatah and Arafat, whom they perceive as most able to represent Palestinian demands internationally and to engage Israel effectively in a political dialogue.

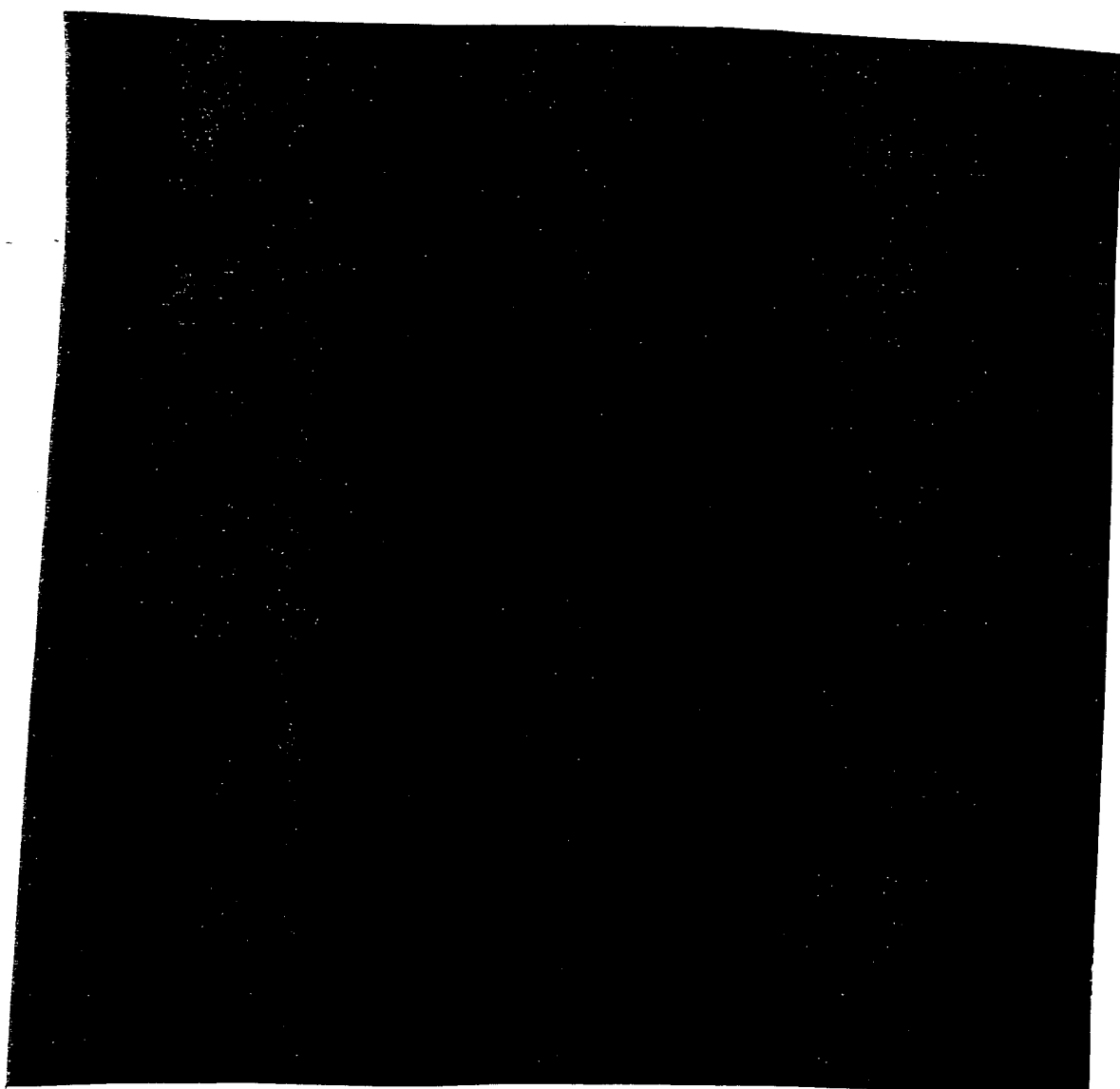
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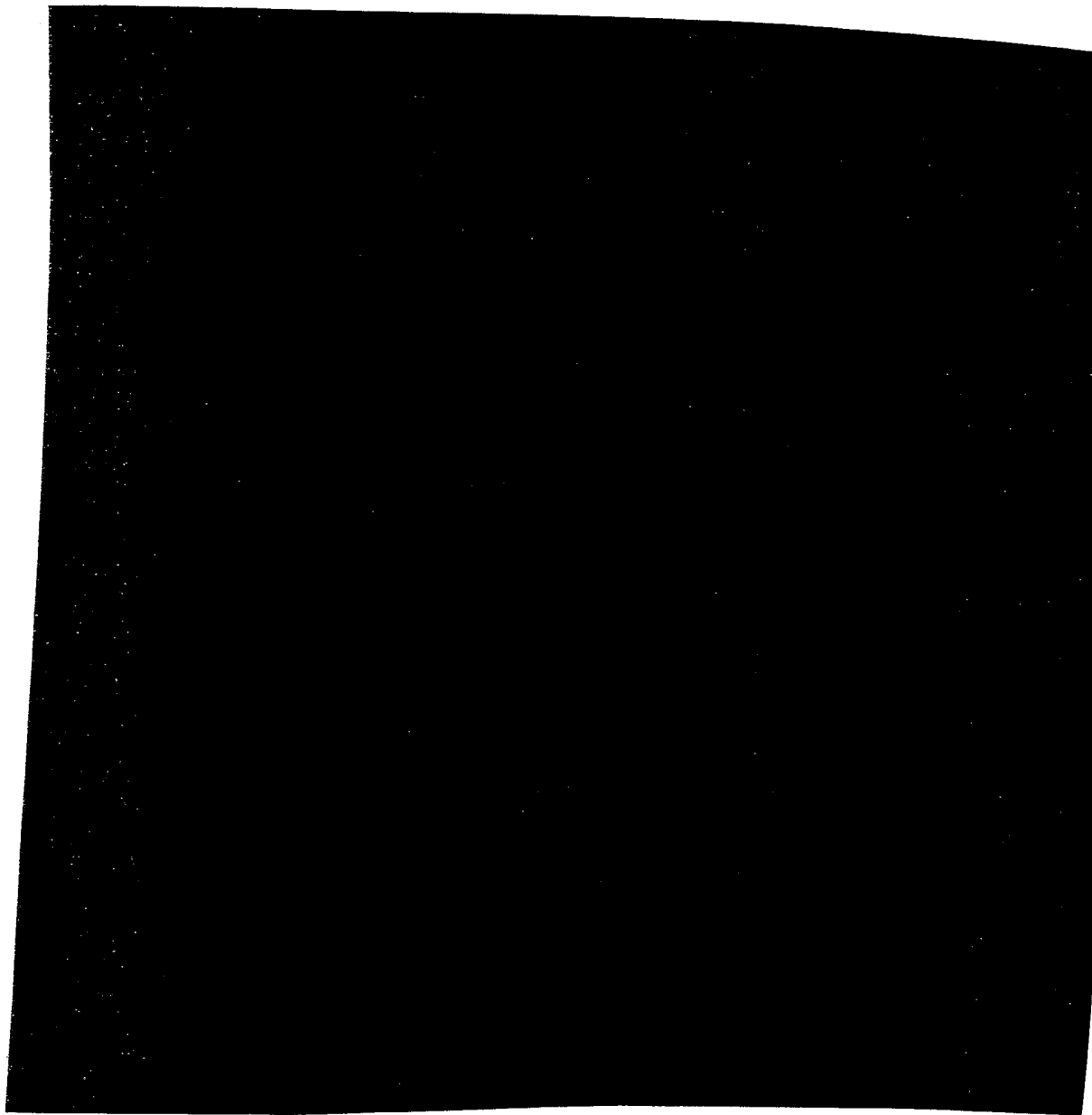
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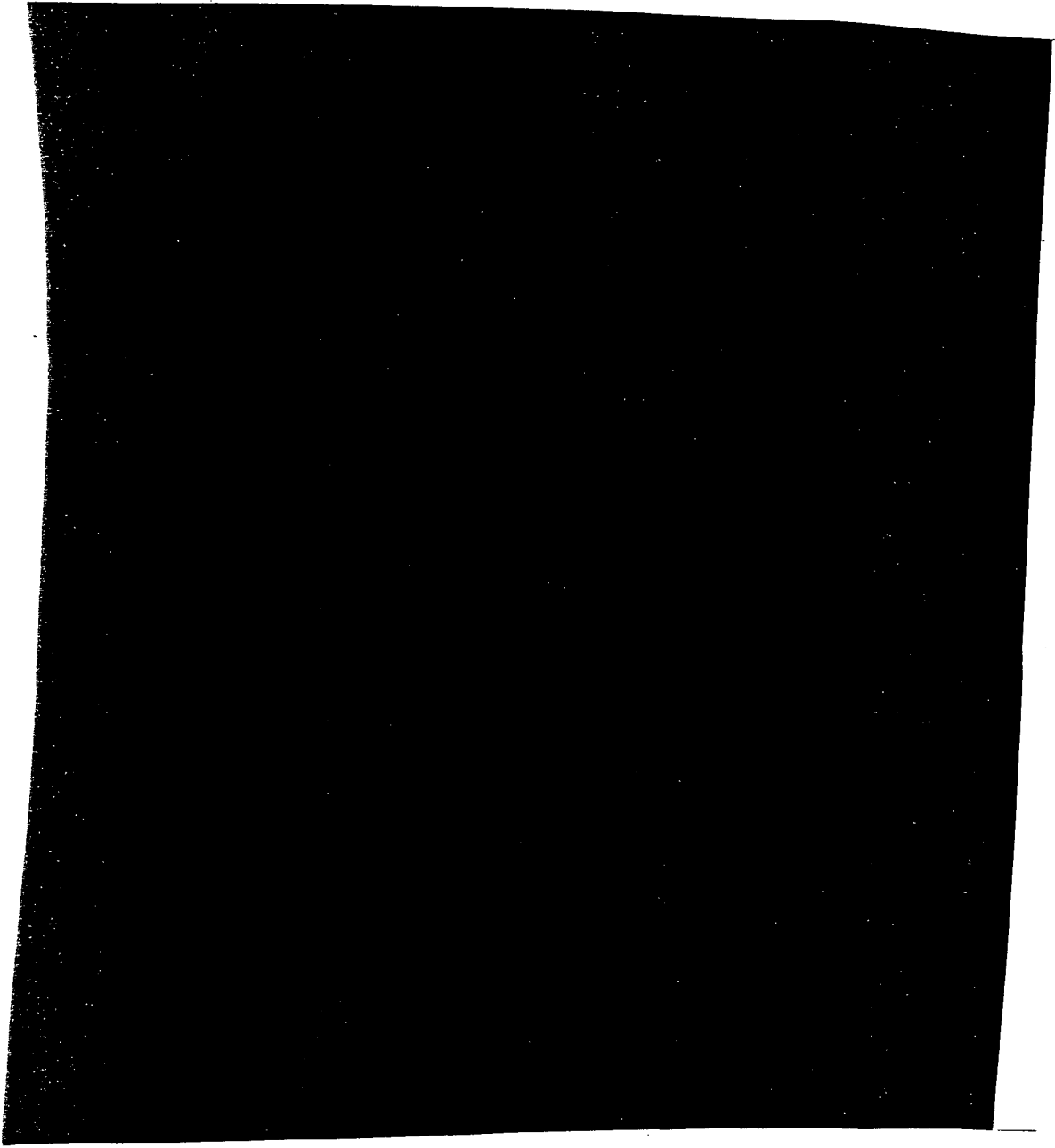


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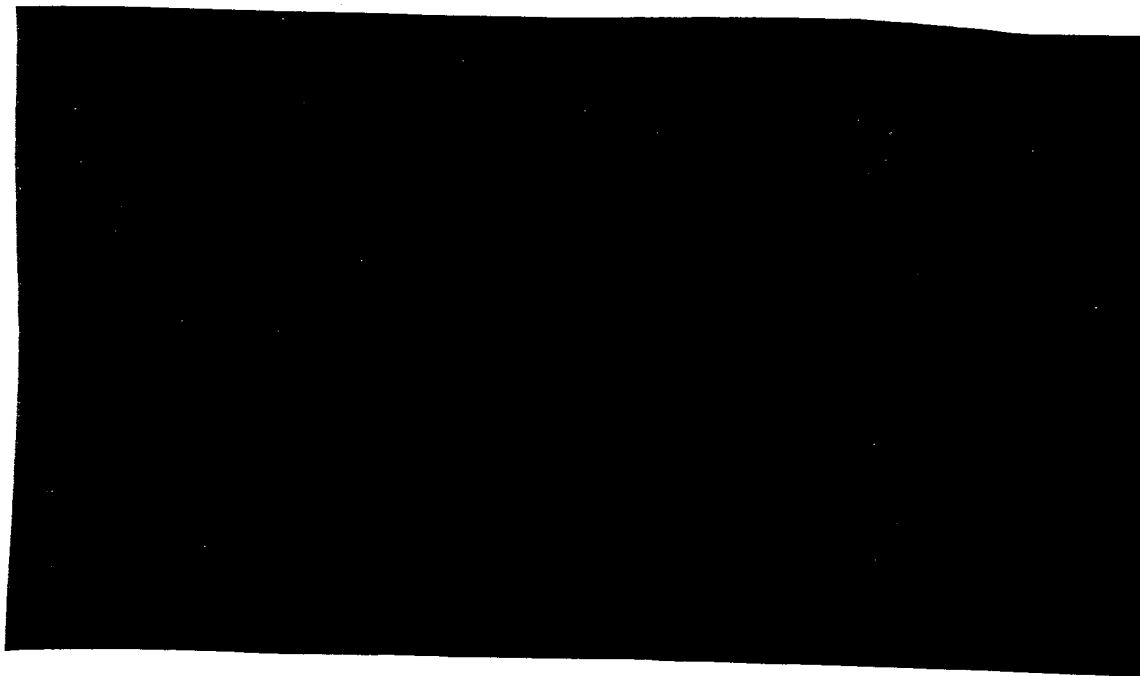


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The Terrorism Diary for December b3

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Below is a compendium of December dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.

<i>1 December 1640</i>	<i>Portugal. Independence Day.</i>
<i>1 December 1918</i>	<i>Iceland. Independence Day.</i>
<i>1 December 1918</i>	<i>Yugoslavia. First independent state constituted.</i>
<i>1 December 1940</i>	<i>Thailand. Founding of Communist Party.</i>
<i>1 December 1958</i>	<i>Central African Republic. National Day (proclamation of republic).</i>
<i>2 December 1971</i>	<i>United Arab Emirates. Abu Dhabi National Day (federation of independent emirates took effect).</i>
<i>2 December 1975</i>	<i>Laos. National Day (proclamation of republic).</i>
<i>3 December</i>	<i>Jewish world. Chanukah (Festival of Lights) begins.</i>
<i>3 December 1934</i>	<i>Peru. Birthday of Sendero Luminoso leader Abimail Guzman.</i>
<i>3 December 1985</i>	<i>Peru. Sendero Luminoso marks Guzman's birthday with 20 to 30 coordinated bombings in Lima.</i>
<i>4 December 1892</i>	<i>Spain. Gen. Francisco Franco's birthday.</i>
<i>5 December 1982</i>	<i>Spain. Death of GRAPO leader Martin Luna.</i>
<i>6 December 1917</i>	<i>Finland. National Day (commemorates independence from Russia).</i>
<i>7 December 1920</i>	<i>Burma. Student uprising against British rule.</i>
<i>7 December 1960</i>	<i>Ivory Coast. Independence Day.</i>
<i>8 December 1974</i>	<i>Greece. Declaration of parliamentary republic.</i>
<i>8 December 1982</i>	<i>Suriname. Execution of 15 opposition leaders.</i>
<i>9 December 1961</i>	<i>Tanzania. Independence Day.</i>
<i>9 December 1962</i>	<i>Tanzania. Republic Day.</i>

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<i>10 December</i>	<i>International. Human Rights Day.</i>
<i>10 December 1956</i>	<i>Angola. Founding of Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).</i>
<i>10 December 1966</i>	<i>Palestinians. Founding of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).</i>
<i>11 December</i>	<i>Jewish world. Chanukah (Festival of Lights) ends.</i>
<i>11 December</i>	<i>Oman. Armed Forces Day.</i>
<i>11 December 1958</i>	<i>Burkina. Republic Day.</i>
<i>12 December 1963</i>	<i>Kenya. Independence Day.</i>
<i>12 December 1964</i>	<i>Kenya. Republic Day.</i>
<i>12 December 1979</i>	<i>Europe. NATO decision to modernize nuclear forces by installing Pershing II and ground-launched cruise missiles.</i>
<i>13 December 1974</i>	<i>Malta. Republic Day.</i>
<i>14 December 1983</i>	<i>Chile. Founding of Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR).</i>
<i>16 December</i>	<i>Panama. National Guard Day.</i>
<i>16 December 1961</i>	<i>South Africa. Founding of military arm of African National Congress (ANC), Umkhonto we Sizwe.</i>
<i>16 December 1971</i>	<i>Bahrain. Independence Day.</i>
<i>16 December 1971</i>	<i>Bangladesh. Victory Day (de facto independence).</i>
<i>16 December 1972</i>	<i>Bangladesh. Republican constitution becomes effective.</i>
<i>17 December 1830</i>	<i>Venezuela. Death of Simon Bolivar.</i>
<i>17 December 1907</i>	<i>Bhutan. National Day.</i>
<i>18 December 1958</i>	<i>Niger. Republic Day.</i>
<i>20 December 1922</i>	<i>USSR. Annexation of Ukraine.</i>
<i>20 December 1970</i>	<i>Poland. Anniversary of riots put down by government with much loss of life.</i>
<i>21 December 1923</i>	<i>Nepal. Independence Day.</i>
<i>21 December 1948</i>	<i>Ireland. Proclamation of republic.</i>

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<i>21 December 1967</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> Founding of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).
<i>23 December 1933</i>	<i>Japan.</i> Birthday of Emperor Akihito.
<i>23 December 1956</i>	<i>Egypt.</i> Victory Day (withdrawal of foreign forces from Port Said and Suez).
<i>23 December 1985</i>	<i>Péru.</i> Sendero Luminoso marks Mao Zedong's 26 December birthday with 51 bombings.
<i>24 December 1951</i>	<i>Libya.</i> Independence Day.
<i>25 December 1876</i>	<i>Pakistan.</i> Birthday of Muhammed Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan.
<i>25 December 1979</i>	<i>Afghanistan.</i> Beginning of occupation of Soviet troops.
<i>26 December 1893</i>	<i>China.</i> Mao Zedong's birthday.
<i>26 December 1968</i>	<i>Philippines.</i> Communist Party of the Philippines founded by Jose Maria Sison.
<i>27 December 1949</i>	<i>Indonesia.</i> Transfer of sovereignty from Netherlands.
<i>28 December</i>	<i>Latin America.</i> Equivalent of US April Fools' Day—traditionally sees many hoaxes and bomb threats.
<i>28 December 1945</i>	<i>Nepal.</i> National Day (King's birthday).
<i>30 December 1896</i>	<i>Philippines.</i> Execution of national hero Jose Rizal.
<i>31 December 1964</i>	<i>Afghanistan.</i> People's Democratic Party founded.
<i>31 December 1968</i>	<i>Philippines.</i> Founding of Communist Party/Marxist-Leninist.

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Chronology of Terrorism—1989

Below are described selected noteworthy foreign and international events involving terrorists or the use of terrorist tactics. These events have occurred or come to light since our last issue. In some cases, the perpetrators and their motivations may not be known. Events and developments that have already been described elsewhere in this publication are not included.

Western Europe

- 11 September** *Turkey: Bomb explodes at Karsiyaka Motherland Party office in Izmir. Dev Yol has claimed responsibility.* b3
- 12 September** *Spain: Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) gunmen assassinate district attorney outside her Madrid home. The victim worked as a prosecutor in several cases involving ETA members.* b3
- Spain: Letter bomb kills Bilbao merchant. The ETA stated that the victim was targeted by mistake.* b3
- 13 September** *United Kingdom: Explosive devices found at bookstores in Guildford, Nottingham, and Peterborough; device in York detonates. The bookstores are owned by the publisher of Salman Rushdie's book *Satanic Verses*.* b3
- 15 September** *Spain: Bombs explode on Vitoria-Irun rail line near San Sebastian. The ETA claimed responsibility during a warning call seconds before the explosions.* b3
- 16 September** *Spain: Spanish Civil Guards kill two ETA members during shootout. The ETA members were attempting to flee to France hidden in a tractor-trailer truck.* b3
- 20 September** *France: In Paris, car bomb explodes in front of People's Republic of China commercial offices. No one was hurt, and no one has claimed responsibility.* b3
- 21 September** *Greece: Molotov cocktail thrown at New Democracy office in Athens. The "Cells for Solidarity Against Authority" claimed responsibility.* b3
- Cyprus: Bomb thrown at National Guard barracks in Nicosia. No group has claimed responsibility.* b3

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22 September

United Kingdom: Bomb kills 10 bandmen at Royal Marines School of Music in Deal. The Provisional Irish Republican Army has claimed responsibility.

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27 September

Spain: Two bombs explode and another is defused at French automobile dealerships. The ETA is most likely responsible.

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Middle East

29 September

Lebanon: In Sidon, United Organization of the Halabjah Martyrs claims responsibility for attack on British Club in Baghdad. In its statement, the group called the club a center of anti-Islamic espionage and said the bombing was a response to last year's massacre of Kurds with poison gas in the village of Halabjah.

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3 October

West Bank: Molotov cocktail ignites on door of house in Jerusalem, causing some damage and no injuries.

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4 October

Gaza Strip: Suspected collaborator is axed to death by unidentified assailants. The victim was from Khan Yunus.

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5 October

Gaza Strip: Israeli Defense Forces patrol finds charred body of United Nations Relief and Works Agency employee. The victim was abducted from his home the day before by unknown individuals.

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South/East Asia

12 September

India: In Punjab, terrorists shoot six persons, killing three and injuring three. No one has claimed responsibility.

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18 September

India: In Punjab, gunmen kill the Secretary of the Youth Wing of the Communist Party of India-Marxist. No one has claimed responsibility.

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Philippines: In Manila, grenade explosion at underpass kills two persons and injures seven. No one has claimed responsibility.

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4 October

India: In northern New Delhi an explosion kills five persons and injures seven. No one has claimed responsibility.

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Africa

12 September

South Africa: In Windhoek, gunman kills South-West African People's Organization leader. No group has claimed responsibility.

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